

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISTANB 00997 040823Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /079 W  
-----097594 042338Z /70

R 040718Z APR 78  
FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9815  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMCONSUL IZMIR  
AMCONSUL ADANA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISTANBUL 0997

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, TU  
SUBJ: PATRIARCHATE RESPONDS TO TIME ARTICLE

REF: A) ISTANBUL 0706; B) ISTANBUL 0745

1. GREEK ORTHODOX ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE SPOKESMAN, METROPOLITAN MELITON, HELD PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 1 TO RESPOND TO "REPORTS IN FOREIGN PRESS," CONCERNING STATUS OF ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE. BRIEF INSIDE-PAGE ARTICLES IN THREE MAJOR PAPERS REPORT MELITON'S STATEMENTS IN SOMEWHAT VARIED FORM, BUT IN ALL THREE HE IS QUOTED MAKING POINT THAT ANY SPECULATION PATRIARCHATE CONTEMPLATES MOVING FROM ISTANBUL IS "UNFOUNDED". ONE NEWSPAPER STATES MELITON SPECIFICALLY REFUTED TIME MAGAZINE STORY TO THIS EFFECT.

2. NEWS REPORTS ALSO NOTE MELITON STATEMENT THAT ALTHOUGH THERE ARE CERTAINLY PROBLEMS INVOLVING THE PATRIARCHATE, "A SHORT TIME AGO WE PRESENTED THESE PROBLEMS FOR THE PURPOSE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEIR SOLUTION TO THE PRIME MINISTER WHO RECEIVED US WITH UNDERSTANDING AND WARMTH" (REFTELS). ONE PROBLEM REPORTEDLY MENTIONED BY MELITON TO PRESS AND WHICH WAS ALSO REFERRED TO IN TIME STORY WAS HEAVY BURDEN OF "UNDEMOCRATIC AND UNJUST" TAXATION OF GREEK COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS IMPOSED BY DEPARTMENT OF ASSOCIATIONS. CONGEN HAS DISCUSSED THIS ISSUE IN PREVIOUS REPORTING.

3. WE HAVE SEEN ONLY ONE REPORT IN TURKISH PRESS DIRECTLY  
CONCERNED WITH ARTICLE IN APRIL 3 EDITION OF TIME ENTITLED,  
"A DYING SEE: PATRIARCHATE FADES IN TURKEY." THIS WAS  
CARRIED IN JUSTICE PARTY UNOFFICIAL ORGAN SON HAVADIS WHICH GAVE  
COVERAGE POINTEDLY POLITICAL OVERTONES UNDER FRONT PAGE  
HEADLINE, "ECEVIT REPORTEDLY PROMISES CONCESSIONS TO  
PATRIARCHATE." AMONG ITEMS SON HAVADIS EXTRACTS FROM TIME  
STORY IS POINT THAT U.S. GOVT. ALLEGEDLY BROUGHT PROBLEMS OF  
PATRIARCHATE TO GOT'S ATTENTION.  
HOUGHTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, GREEK ORTHODOX, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ISTANB00997  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780146-0022  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** e2b509b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 ISTANBUL 706, 78 ISTANBUL 745  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3084696  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PATRIARCHATE RESPONDS TO TIME ARTICLE  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PINT, SOPN, TU  
**To:** STATE ANKARA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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